



PROJECT: Chicago Botanical Garden Restoration Project, Cook County, Illinois

AUTHORITY: WRDA 1996

TYPE: Continuing Authority, Section 206 Ecosystem Restoration

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The Chicago Botanic Garden is located in the northeast part of Cook County bounded by Lake Cook road to the north Green Bay road to the east, Dundee road to the south and the Skokie River to the west cook. It encompasses 385 acres, of which 75 acres are aquatic, with 6.4 miles of shoreline in four lagoons. The lagoons are a hydrologically 'closed system,' receiving runoff from the adjacent 290 acre watershed. For extreme events, the Skokie River flows enter the lagoons via an inlet structure providing detention storage for flood control objectives downstream. Conversely, lagoon levels can drop below normal in dry summer periods. Sustained high or low lagoon levels have been detrimental to the shoreline, with up to 13 acres of land lost over the last 30 years.

The project will consist of stabilizing significant portions of the over 6 miles of lagoon. The plan recommends both hard and soft edge treatments to meet shoreline conditions and desired image objectives. This mix has the potential to provide data on erosion control methods applicable in other areas.

CURRENT STATUS: The PRP has been completed and is under review at Division

PLANNED WORK:

FY 01

Initiate and complete the Environmental Restoration Report and initiate Plans and Specifications.

FY02

Complete the Plans & Specifications, negotiate the Project Cooperation Agreement and initiate construction.

PROJECT COST:

Federal Cost	\$1,475,000
Non-Federal Cost	\$ 800,000
Total Cost	\$2,275,000

BENEFITS: Restoration will enhance aesthetic appeal, support the garden's plant collections and educational opportunities, improve water quality and enhance habitat for aquatic and terrestrial resources.

LOCAL SPONSORS: The Chicago Botanical Garden is a unit of the Cook County Forest Preserve District with substantial taxing and bonding authorities. There may also be financial support from the State of Illinois.

ISSUES/CONCERNS: None

PROJECT MANAGER: Jean Sellar